

# Rhodora

JOURNAL OF

THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANICAL CLUB

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Vol. 59

November, 1957

No. 707

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## A NEW INTERGENERIC NATURAL HYBRID INVOLVING ORYZOPSIS AND STIPA (GRAMINEAE)

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NATURAL HYBRIDIZATION on the generic level, involving the widely-distributed *Oryzopsis hymenoides* (Roem. & Schult.) Ricker of western United States and various species of *Stipa* with which it comes into contact over its range, is an established fact although the phenomenon is evidently extremely rare. In only one instance has the hybrid been detected in nature and recognized as such; the analysis of Johnson and Rogler (1943) of a putative hybrid from the Badlands of North Dakota showed the plant to be a sterile 65-chromosome offspring of a cross between the 82-chromosome *Stipa viridula* and the 48-chromosome *Oryzopsis hymenoides*. These authors showed that *Oryzopsis caduca* Beal could be identified with the hybrids under analysis, and they proposed the name  $\times$  *Stiporyzopsis* for the hybrid combination *Stipa*  $\times$  *Oryzopsis*, giving the name  $\times$  *Stiporyzopsis caduca* (Beal) Johnson & Rogler to the combination *Stipa viridula*  $\times$  *Oryzopsis hymenoides*.

Later, Johnson (1945) followed this work with a survey of herbarium specimens in the major American collections and demonstrated that similar hybrids reposed therein under various names in *Stipa* and *Oryzopsis*. In each instance, the *Oryzopsis* parent was undoubtedly *O. hymenoides*; the *Stipa* parent was inferred by the geographic location of the hybrid and by extra-

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